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Deutsche Gesellschaft für Sprachverarbeitung, Sektion Computerlinguistik,  
4<sup>th</sup> Technical Conference, pp. 1 - 6f.

On page 37, line 31, after "module" please insert --VV'--.

On page 38, after line 7, please insert the following paragraph:

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--The invention is not limited to the particular details of the method and apparatus depicted and other modifications and applications are contemplated. Certain other changes may be made in the above described method and apparatus without departing from the true spirit and scope of the invention herein involved. It is intended, therefore, that the subject matter in the above depiction shall be interpreted as illustrative and not in a limiting sense.

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**IN THE CLAIMS:**

On replacement page 40, line 1, please change "Patent claims" to --

**WHAT IS CLAIMED IS:**

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Please amend claims 1-10 as follows:

1. (Amended) [Speech] A speech processing system, comprising:  
at least one of a plurality of [-having several] speech recognition modules and a plurality of [(Ei, i=1..n) and/or several] speech output modules [(Aj, j=1..m) that are], each of the speech recognition modules and speech output modules being respectively constructed specifically for a particular type of speech recognition and/or speech output[,]; and

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[- having a means (MA)] a selector for selecting at least one speech recognition module [(Ei)] and/or speech output module [(Aj)] for a speech recognition and/or speech output to be carried out later, dependent on an input signal [(ES) with which it is described] that describes what type of speech recognition and/or speech output is further required.

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2. (Amended) [Speech] The speech processing system according to claim 1, wherein [in which] the [means (MA)] selector for selecting the speech recognition module [(Ei)] and/or the speech output module [(Aj)] is constructed [in] such [a way] that the speech recognition module [(Ei)] and/or the speech output module [(Aj)] is controlled by the selector [means (MA)].

3. (Amended) [Speech] The speech processing system according to claim 1 [or 2, in which] wherein parts of the speech recognition module [(Ei)] and/or of the speech output module [(Aj)] that are used in common are realized in at least one pre-processing module [(VV)] and/or in at least one post-processing module, respectively.

4. (Amended) [Speech] The speech processing system according to claim 3, wherein [in which] several speech recognition modules of the plurality of speech recognition modules [(Ei)] and/or speech output modules of the plurality of speech output modules [(Aj)] use common resources.

5. (Amended) [Speech] The speech processing system according to claim 1, wherein the system further comprises [one of claims 1 to 4, in which] a dialog sequence control [(DA) is provided] with which a dialog of the speech processing system with a user [(B)] of the speech processing system is realized.

6. (Amended) [Speech] The speech processing system according to claim 5, wherein [one of claims 1 to 5, in which] the input signal [(ES)] is produced by the dialog sequence control [(DA)].

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7 (Amended) [Speech] The speech processing system according to  
claim 1, wherein [one of claims 1 to 6, - in which] the speech recognition  
module [(Ei)] is constructed at least for [the] execution of one of the following  
types of speech recognition:

- 5 [--] Individual numeral recognition,  
[--] Recognition of chains of numerals,  
[--] Recognition of words from a limited vocabulary,  
[--] Recognition of an individual word with an unlimited vocabulary,  
[--] Recognition of speech spoken in a flowing manner with an unlimited  
10 vocabulary,  
[--] Recognition of predetermined word combinations,  
[--] Keyword recognition,  
[--] Alphabet recognition,  
[--] Sound sequence recognition,  
15 [--] Speech recognition,  
[--] DTMF recognition,  
and/or

[ - in which the] wherein a respective speech output module of the plurality of  
20 speech output modules [(Aj)] is constructed at least for the execution of one  
of the following types of speech output:

- [-- Output] output of predetermined stored speech stores,  
[-- Output] output of combined individual predetermined stored speech  
stores,  
[-- Output] output of words synthesized from stored phonemes, and  
25 [-- Output] output of DTMF tones.

added "wherein"

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